

CLAIMS

1. A peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent comprising an effective amount of a multi-epitope peptide which is a linear polypeptide molecule comprising different T cell epitope regions joined to each other, wherein

- (1) each of said T cell epitope regions shows a positivity index of not less than approximately 100 when measured in a population of patients sensitive to allergen(s);
- (2) said multi-epitope peptide reacts with peripheral lymphocytes from at least not less than 70% of said population of patients sensitive to said allergen(s); and
- (3) said multi-epitope peptide does not substantially react with IgE antibodies of the population of patients sensitive to said allergen(s).
- 2. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 1, wherein said different T cell epitope regions are derived from two or more different allergen molecules.
- 3. The peptide-based impunotherapeutic agent of claim 2,
 wherein said different allergen molecules are cedar pollen allergens

Cry j 1 and Cry j 2.

- 4. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 1, wherein a site that is processed in the antigen-presenting cells is inserted between each of the T cell epitope regions.
- 25 5. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 4,

Cold 22

18 48

S. S.

wherein said site that is processed in the antigen-presenting cells is an arginine dimer or a lystne dimer.

5.

6. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 3, wherein said peptide contains an amino acid sequence described in any of SEQ NO: 1, SEQ NO: 2, or SEQ NO: 3.

6

- 7. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 5, wherein said peptide contains an epitope restricted by at least one HLA class II molecule selected from DRB5'0101, DRB4'0101, DQA1'0102 DQB1'0602, DPA1'0101 DPB1'0501, and DPA1'0101 DPB1'0201.
- 8. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 2, wherein said different allergen molecules are cedar pollen allergen Cry j 1 and hinoki pollen allergen Cha o 1.
- 9. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 8, wherein said peptide contains an amino acid sequence of SEQ NO: 4 or SEQ NO: 5.

May 2

obligh

100 S